TO: Lt. Col. William Pallozzi. Chief. Criminal Investigation Bureau DATE: 12/16/2011

·	
For your information	Take charge of
As requested	For additional information
Approve and return	XX For comment/recommendation
Note and return	Give me facts so I can answer
See me	Prepare reply for my signature

Reference: Use of emergency equipment in Attorney General

BACKGROUND

I am writing this memo in reference to an on-going safety issue I am having with the Attorney General. Since the inception of his detail he has been very forceful about insisting on the use of emergency equipment (lights and sirens) on a daily basis. The truck is owned by the AG's office but the emergency equipment is owned and maintained by the Maryland State Police. This may consist of driving Code 1 on the highways at a high rate of speed, driving Code 1 on the shoulders at a high rate of speed, insisting that Troopers push yellow lights at a high rate of speed and passing through red lights. In March of 2011 it came to my attention that this had become an even bigger problem than I had thought. I observed the AG's truck on MD-97 driving Code 1. When I spoke to the Trooper involved I was informed of what was going on daily basis and I became very concerned. I immediately had all of the Troopers assigned to EPS sign a written order in reference to the EPS and MSP "Emergency Driving" policy. A copy of this order has been attached. All EPS Troopers were instructed that when asked to put the lights on by the AG, they should tell him about the order (show it to him if necessary) and to tell him to contact Lt. Ardolini if he has any issues with it.

On December 15, 2011 several members of EPS were in stop and go traffic on S/B MD97. While in traffic the AG's truck past them at a high rate of speed on the shoulder with lights and sirens on. When I was informed of this I immediately contacted the Trooper assigned to the AG that day. The Trooper stated that he told the AG he was not supposed to use the emergency equipment for non-emergencies. The AG reached over and turned on the emergency equipment and "ordered" the Trooper to take the shoulder. I detailed account of these events is also attached to this report. It is not only the driving with emergency equipment that has me concerned. The Troopers have expressed to me both written and verbally that they are being forced to drive in an extremely dangerous manor. They are concerned for the safety of the public as well as there own safety. On December 16, 2011 the AG was not satisfied with the Trooper assigned to him that day and told the Trooper to get in the passenger seat. The Trooper advised that the AG activated the emergency equipment in the truck and drove in an extremely dangerous/aggressive manor. He texted one of the supervisors while in the truck and told him how nervous he was about how the AG was driving.

now getting complaints from the Troopers regarding their concerns about public safety, their own safety and

liability. Some have expressed speaking to their FOP or Troopers Association about this.

EXAMPLES

I have attached several written statements that I have received from various Troopers about the situation on the AG's detail. In these statements you will see that this extremely irresponsible behavior is non-stop and occurs on a daily basis. Not only is this behavior unacceptable, the Troopers are constantly treated in a disrespectful and unprofessional manor. I have included in bullet format some of the issues.

-Lights and Sirens: Everyday the AG insists that the Troopers run Code 1 to his events. This includes breakfast, meetings and his children's sporting events. If the Troopers tell him that they have been ordered by their Lieutenant not to do this, he will make negative comments about me and "order" them to put the emergency equipment on. If they do not turn the lights and sirens on he will reach over and turn them on himself. I am told almost daily by the Troopers that they are worried about their safety and the safety of others.

-Disrespectful treatment of the Troopers: The AG is consistently making unprofessional and derogatory statements about the Troopers. He says these things to his staff and to others on the phone in front of the Troopers. He continually makes statements that "he is the AG and he can do what he wants", "we don't have to wait at red lights", "I don't care what your commander says, I am ordering you to", many more of his quotes are listed in the attached memos.

-Driving the vehicle himself: On several occasions the Troopers have responded to his house for a pick up and the truck has had damage. Sometimes minor and a few times more severe. (we had to tape the front bumper on once) He freely discusses with the Troopers about how he drives the truck on the weekends and evenings. He also freely discusses driving the vehicle with the lights and sirens on without the Troopers present. Most of the Troopers feel that this is illegal and this makes them very uncomfortable. Just this week he had one of the Troopers get in the passenger seat and the AG drove the vehicle.

There is no question that the AG strongly disagrees with the decisions I have made in regard to his detail from the beginning of the administration. He has commented to Troopers and his staff that, "Ardolini would never treat the Governor the way he treats me". I have explained to his staff many times that there is a huge difference in the protective details and the services that are provided. I have been told by several people including the AG's staff that it goes all the way back to the Democratic Convention in Denver. He was upset that the Governor had Troopers there and he did not. (he even reiterated this to the COS) His staff has consistently requests specific Troopers to drive the AG, stating that he feels that the ones sent there to drive him "don't know what they are doing".

He feels that I disrespect him because I will not assign the Governor's drivers to unive min. He was very upset when I gave the Section the written order about emergency driving procedures. When several Troopers refused to drive recklessly, they advised him that they were ordered by the Lieutenant not to drive in that manner. His response to several of them was "When I am Governor, the first thing I am doing is getting rid of Ardolini". This does not bother me personally but I feel that this is threatening to the younger Troopers, insinuating they will be moved also if they

don't comply.

CONCLUSION

Attorney General Gansler has consistently acted in a way that disregards public safety, our Troopers safety and even the law. AG Gansler repeatedly states that he is the AG and he is allowed to drive like this and brag's about driving with emergency equipment activated when he is by himself. He and his staff have repeatedly stated that there is a Maryland Statute (but they can't find it) that says the State of Maryland will provide transportation and security to the AG.

The AG has continually displayed a disregard for public safety, Troopers safety and the law. This is not a new issue between EPS and the AG. We have been addressing this for five years now and it seems to be getting worse. It is our job to protect the public and the Troopers that work for us. The Troopers under my command are intelligent hard working professionals. It is my duty to make sure they are protected both physically and from any liability issues.

am being told both verbally and in writing that the Troopers are worried about public safety and their own safety. I am hearing that several Troopers may start to refuse to drive the AG and even approach their Union representatives about the situation. They are also very bothered by the fact that the AG speaks of driving the truck by himself with the emergency equipment on.

making this request and he is showing his unhappiness to the Troopers in the truck.



As Requested

1 message

Frl. Dec 16, 2011 at 10:00 PM

Reply-To:

To: Charles Ardolini <cardolini@qov.state.md.us>

Cc:

Over the past seven months I have driven the Attorney General Douglas Gansler. Over these months the Attorney General has ordered and asked me on several occasions to run the shoulder while activating my lights and sirens. The Attorney General has also informed me that "Troopers do not sit in traffic." While driving him he constantly informs me that Troopers drive as fast as possible to events. On several occasions the Attorney General informs me that "Troopers do not stop at yellow lights." Upon approaching yellow lights turning red the Attorney General stresses that we run the yellow, because we don't have time to sit there all day. The Attorney General has made comments while sitting at a red light " just go on the other side of the road and put the lights on people will stop then just cut over." I have been told while sitting in the left turning lane at Intersections with a red arrow to bypass the signal, there only used for c aution. While driving on major highways like I-495 and I-95 he will reach over and flick the lights and hit the air horn to try and get the people in front of me to move out of the way.

Over the past several months the Attorney General has made comments to individuals like his children, wife, and staff that if an (unnamed trooper) was driving I would be there by now. Also, comments like we will have to leave earlier because as a like we like the leave earlier because as a like we will have to leave earlier because as a like we will have the like

On 12/16/2011 at approximately 1100 hours I was directed by the Attorney General that he was going to drive himself to the first event and for me to sit in the passenger seat. I then contacted my supervisors to inform them of the situation. While riding in the passenger seat I observed the Attorney General exceeding the speed limit, using his lights and sirens to move people out of his way, hit the shoulder with his lights, and turn his lights and sirens on to go through four red lights. At approximately 1630 hours, I was waiting for the Attorney General outside his office, When he got into the truck he looked at me and asked "did you tell anybody in the msp that I drove this morning." My response was "yes." Then the Attorney General asked "did you tell them I used my lights and sirens." My response was "yes."

TO:	Lt. Charles Ardolini # 0018	DATE: 04/21/2011
FROM:		
	For your information As requested Approve and Return Note and return See me	Take charge of For Additional information For Comment/recommendation Give me facts so I can answer Prepare reply for my signature

On Saturday April 16, 2011 I was assigned to Att. General Gansler. I made the following observations:

- On two separate occasions the Att. General stated to make a u-turn on a posted no u-turn sign.
- When I went to make one of the u-turns he activated the siren box to move a vehicle that was in front of our vehicle.
- He stated that he drove home from DC earlier in the day on the shoulder with his lights on.
- When I came up to a stop sign he stated stop signs are optional.
- When I was leaving his neighborhood and slowed down for speed bumps he stated the faster you go over the speed bumps the better.
- He made comments implying that he would rather drive himself so that he can drive faster.

TO: Lt.	. Charles Ardolini # 0018	DATE:	04/21/2011
FROM:		 	
As App	r your information requested prove and Return e and return me	For Comments	ge of ional information nt/recommendation acts so I can answer aply for my signature

Re: Attorney General Gansler

On 4/17/2011 at approximately 1800 hrs I was assigned the duty of protecting Attorney General Gansler. Upon entering the vehicle, Gansler stated, "I don't care how fast we drive. The faster the better". Throughout the course of the day, the Attorney General made statements in regards to him operating his state issued vehicle on the shoulder of the roadway with his emergency equipment activated due to heavy traffic. Then, while stationary at a red traffic signal, Attorney General Gansler from the passenger seat reached to the center console and activated the siren box in an attempt to move the vehicle out of the way. This occurred on two separate occasions. There was no communication between Attorney General Gansler and myself regarding the incidents.

TO: Executive Protection Section	DATE: March 6, 2011				
FROM: Lt. Charles W. Ardolini. Commander.	. <u>Eps</u>				
X For Your Information As Requested Approve and Return Note and Return See Me	Take Charge Of For Additional Information For Comment/Recommendation Give Me Facts So I Can Answer Prepare Reply For My Signature				
RE: Satellite Details: Emergency Driving Poli	су				
It has come to my attention that there is a lot of "Emergency Driving" going on with the Satellite Details. These include the Comptroller, Treasurer and Attorney General. This document will serve as a signed written order on Section policy. All EPS personnel will adhere to Maryland State Police policy on Emergency Driving (Patrol Manual Chapter 22 Section XI). There will be no Code 1 or Code 2(lights and sirens) driving unless it is justified as stated in the manual. Any violations of this policy will result in all emergency equipment being removed from the vehicle. Violation of this policy will also result in disciplinary action and transfer from EPS. This order is effective as of today. If you have any issues with a protectee about this order have them contact me. We are liable for the operation of these vehicles, not the protectees.					
Printed Name					
Signature and Date					

TO: <u>Lt. Ardolini</u>		DATE: 12/15/2011		
FROM:				
	XX For your information	Take charge of For additional information		
	XX As requested Approve and return	For comment/recommendation		
	Note and return	Give me facts so I can answer		
	See me	Prepare reply for my signature		

On 12/15/2011 at approximately 1315 hours, I was traveling south bound on I-97 north of MD 301 in an unmarked black Chevrolet Tahoe. I was assigned for the day to protect and escort the Attorney General, Doug Gansler, who was traveling in the right front passenger seat. At that time I was taking him from his office in Baltimore, MD to an event at the Anne Arundel County Court of Appeals in Annapolis, MD. While traveling, I approached a vehicle accident which had both lanes of traffic on the south bound side at a complete stop. The accident was approximately % of a mile south of us. As we approached, the Attorney General looked at me and told me to drive on the right side shoulder. He then also instructed me to initiate my lights and sirens to alert the vehicles that we were approaching on the right side to bypass the traffic. While traveling on the right shoulder, we passed a gray unmarked Ford Crown Victoria, as well as a black unmarked Chevy Tahoe. I advised the Attorney General that I thought we had passed somebody from our unit, which he answered, "Oh great". I then began to receive calls on my work cell phone from Delta, but was unable to answer them since I was driving. When we arrived to our event at the Anne Arundel County Court of Appeals, I advised the Attorney General that we did in fact pass an Executive Protection Unit on Southbound I-97 North of MD-301. I also advised him that I was going to be disciplined for driving on the right shoulder due to the fact that it was not an emergency situation. He looked at me and said, "Oh ok", and left the Tahoe which no real concern of the situation. At no time during the drive to this event were we running late, or in any danger which would require driving on the right shoulder. The Attorney General still insisted that we drive on the right shoulder to bypass stopped traffic, and that it was an "order".

Along with today's incident, I have driven the Attorney General a total of four times. During each day of driving him, he consistently demands that the Trooper drive as fast as possible to events. From the first day that I worked for him, he instructed me that "this unit doesn't wait in traffic", and that "we go fast". Upon approaching yellow lights turning red, the Attorney General constantly stresses to the Trooper that they "get past the yellow, because you don't want to get stuck behind a red light your entire life". After the incident that occurred on I-97, and after advising the Attorney General of the possibility of facing disciplinary action, I was again stressed to run a red light on State Circle in downtown Annapolis. When I refused, the Attorney General told me, "Now what did I tell you about yellow lights? We're trying to train you to be more aggressive out here".

Upon taking the Attorney General to his home tonight, he said that I "looked upset", and asked me what was wrong. I advised him again of the situation today on southbound I-97, and that the Commander, Governor, and my direct supervisors were aware of the situation. I also told him that I was upset because of the entire situation, and the consequences I was facing due to the incident. He told me "not to worry about it" as well as, "So what... That's fine, just tell them that it was a direct order and you had to it. We don't have to wait in traffic".

The Attorney General has also put pressure on me to run on the shoulder at other locations. On my first day working with him, he ordered me to drive on the right side of the shoulder of the Outer Loop I-495 passing MD-650. When I told him that I was not comfortable doing it, he told me that I should get in the passenger seat and let him drive. He then proceeded to get on his phone with his two sons, and told them that he didn't think he would ever get home. He told them that he was, "stuck with and not another Trooper." He then continued to tell me that, "we don't wait in traffic", and "(unnamed Trooper) would have had us home by now." On multiple occasions on the four days that I have worked for the Attorney General, he will use other Troopers as examples of how to and how not to "correctly drive" him to and from events. The Attorney General also tries to get his Trooper to bypass intersections by running up the left or right hand turn lanes, and then turning back into the intersection.

From the incident that occurred today at 1315 hours on southbound I-97 north of MD 301 as well as multiple other incidents driving for the Attorney General, I have learned that he consistently tries to get his Trooper to drive as fast as possible. He continuously will try to turn the lights and sirens on himself, as well as "ordering" you to do so and drive on the shoulder. The Attorney General constantly and consistently pushes the Troopers to drive in an aggressive manner. If they are not driving in a manner to his liking, he will continue to belittle the Trooper, both to his face and to others over the phone. It is in my opinion that the Attorney General puts himself, the Trooper, and others in unsafe situations on a consistent basis by the manner that he feels is the correct way to drive him.





Re:

1 message

To: Charles Ardolini <cardolini@gov.state.md.us>

Thu, Dec 22, 2011 at 9:37 PM

He hit the air horn one time today and once yesterday. Both incidents happened at intersections waiting for cars in front of us to turn.

--- Original Message ---From: Charles Ardolini

Sent: Thursday December 22, 2011 06:16 PM

Subject:

please send me an email with anything unusual that happened during your two days with the AG. I know you mentioned he hit the airhorn several times. If this is the case please explain the circumstances and how many times it happened.

Message sent from BlackBerry handheld device.



FW: AG/ 1 message

To: Charles Ardolini <cardolini@gov.state.md.us>,

Tue, Dec 20, 2011 at 10:36

Original Message-

Sent: Tuesday, December 20, 2011 9:12 AM

Subject

On behalf of the Attorney General and due to the events that took place last week, the AG request that you longer be his driver. The AG has no ill feelings toward but unfortunately the AG doesn't feel comfortable with him. If you need to discuss further please don't hesitate

to call me or email me.

Thank you for your understanding.



Re: AG's Tahoe

1 message

Sun, Aug 26, 2012 at 7:29 PM

To: charles.ardolini@maryland.gov

I secured for the evening without taking any pictures, I am asking now if he can tomorrow morning, If that is ok with you

---- Original Message ----

From: Charles Ardolini (State Police) [mailto:charles.ardolini@maryland.gov] Sent: Sunday, August 26, 2012 07:27 PM

Subject; Re; AG's Tahoe

Take some pics if you can

---- Original Message ----

From: Sent: Sunday, August 26, 2012 07:06 PM

To: charles.ardolini@maryland.gov <charles.ardolini@maryland.gov>

Subject; Re: AG's Tahoe

Will do sir

--- Original Message ----

From: Charles Ardolini (State Police) [mailto:charles.ardolini@maryland.gov] Sent: Sunday, August 26, 2012 07:04 PM

Subject: Re: AG's Tance

Thanks!! Call me in the AM, We will talk. He is something!

---- Original Message -----

Sent: Sunday, August 26, 2012 07:00 PM

To: charles.ardolini@maryland.gov <charles.ardolini@maryland.gov>

Subject: Re: AG's Tahoe

Sir, that is a good question. I really don't know. I made it clear that I didn't do it, I always walk around the truck at the end of every shift to check the tires and that damage was definitely something that could not have been missed, he wasn't concerned about getting it fixed even after I told him that the it was already having problems and it needs to be checked/fixed before charlotte

--- Original Message ---From: Charles Ardolini (State Police)
[mailto:charles.ardolini@maryland.gov]
Sent: Sunday, August 26, 2012 06:51 PM

Subject: Re: AG's Tahoe

Do you think he really knows you didn't do it and was trying to put it on you

---- Original Message -----

Sent: Sunday, August 26, 2012 06:41 PM

To: charles.ardolini@maryland.gov <charles.ardolini@maryland.gov>

Subject: Re: AG's Tahoe



---- Original Message ----

From: Charles Ardolini (State Police) [mailto:charles.ardolini@maryland.gov] Sent: Sunday, August 26, 2012 06:38 PM

Subject: Re: AG's Tahoe

--- Original Message ----

Sent: Sunday, August 25, 2012 06:33 PM

To: charles.ardolini@maryland.gov <charles.ardolini@maryland.gov>

Subject: Re; AG's Tahoe



---- Original Message ----

From: Charles Ardolini (State Police) [mallto:charles.ardolini@maryland.gov] Sent Sunday, August 26, 2012 06:32 PM

Subject: Re: AG's Tahoe

Do you think he did it.

--- Original Message ---

Sent: Sunday, August 26, 2012 05,30 PW

To:

Charles Ardolini (State Policé) <charles.ardolini@maryland.gov>

Subject: AG's Tahoe

Sir,

Sunday, 08/26/12 at approximately 1120 hours, I arrived at the Attorney

AG met me outside of his residence and advised me of newly discovered damage to his State of Maryland Issued 2012 Chevrolet Tahoe Hybrid. The AG asked if I caused the damage or had knowledge of II. (The Tahoe was parked on Darby road directly outside of his residence. I parked the Tahoe in his driveway prior to securing the night before at 1700 hours). I observed significant damage to the front drivers side bumper and quarter panel. I advised the AG that the damage was not present when I secured the vehicle the night before. The AG advised that he did use the truck after 1700 hours the night before and in the morning before 1120 hours. I will complete and submit a MSP Form 17 documenting the incident.

If you have any question I will have my phone with me and will be available.



RE: Transponder #

Dorothy (Jeanne) Dahlby

Mon, Jul 23, 2012 at 3:19 PM

To: Charles Ardolini < cardolini@gov.state.md.us>

Fort Mc Henry Tunnel, the account number is 200 and the violation number is 200 the date 7/15/2012, time 8:17:59 location FMT, lane 011.

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Executive Support Coordinator



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From: Charles Ardolini

Sent: Monday, July 23, 2012 3:14 PM

Subject: Re: Transponder

What toll plaza

Message sent from BlackBerry handheld device.

From

Sent: Monday, July 23, 2012 03:03 PM

To: Charles Ardolini

Subject: RE: Transponder #

Yes, the driver exceeded the speed limit at the toll plaza (62 miles per hour). If another violation occurs within 6 months privileges may will be suspended.

Regards,

Jeanne

Executive Support Coordinator

From: Charles Ardolini

Sent: Monday, July 23, 2012 1:47 PM

Subject: Re: Transponger

will look it up. Was there a ticket?

Message sent from BlackBerry handheld device.

From: Monday, July 23, 2012 01:40 PM

To: Charles Ardolini
Subject: Transponder

Hello,

Please let me know if one of your people was using transponder on 7/15/12. Please send me a list of transponder numbers and the corresponding Vehicles.

Regards,

Executive Support Coordinator



AG's Tahoe

1 message

To:
Cc:
<harles.ardolinito;marylano.gov

Sun, Aug 26, 2012 at 6:30 PM

"Charles Ardolini (State Police)"

Sir, Sunday, 08/26/12 at approximately 1120 hours, I arrived at the Attorney General's (AG) residence to begin my shift. As I was exiting my car, the AG met me outside of his residence and advised me of newly discovered damage to his State of Maryland issued 2012 Chevrolet Tahoe Hybrid. The AG asked if I caused the damage or had knowledge of it. (The Tahoe was parked on Darby road directly outside of his residence. I parked the Tahoe in his driveway prior to securing the night before at 1700 hours). I observed significant damage to the front drivers side bumper and quarter panel. I advised the AG that the damage was not present when I secured the vehicle the night before. The AG advised that he did use the truck after 1700 hours the night before and in the morning before 1120 hours. I will complete and submit a MSP Form 17 documenting the incident.

If you have any question I will have my phone with me and will be available.





AG

1 message

Charles Ardolini -State Police- <charles.ardolini@maryland.gov> To: Charles Ardolini <charles.ardolini@maryland.gov>

Mon, Nov 26, 2012 at 4:13 PM

I spoke to speed ticket that AG got when he (AG) was driving advised the AG got an updated ticket with an increased fine. He threw it away and said he was not paying it.

Lt. Charles Ardolini, Commander Maryland State Police Executive Protection Section charles.ardolini@maryland.gov

Office: 410-974-2991



AG December 2012

1 message

Charles Ardolini -State Police- <charles.ardolini@maryland.gov>

Wed, Dec 19, 2012 at 9:29

To: Charles Ardolini <charles.ardolini@maryland.gov>

advised that Ag stated: He did not need him after the mansion holiday event. Stated that he was going to be running behind for the redskins game and that he was going to have to use emergency equipment. Since the troopers wont use it, he said he would drive himself.

12/18: advised me that he was at an event with the LG. He observed the AG arrive at the same event driving himself. Emergency equipment was activated.

12/17 and 12/18: AG was on the for not driving aggressively enough the sadvised that the AG was angry he did not run a red light in the rain. The felt like it was unsafe. He told that he was going to call Col. Brown because he is sick of these troopers who cant drive (which means, wont put lights and sirens on). Consistently complaining to the shoulder or running lights.

Have been told by many of the troopers that he is driving himself more so he can run lights and sirens

Lt. Charles Ardolini, Commander Maryland State Police Executive Protection Section Government House 110 State Circle Annapolis, MD 21401 charles.ardolini@maryland.gov

Office: 410-974-2991



(no subject)

1 message



Thu, Aug 29, 2013 at 10:40

To: Charles Ardolini <charles.ardolini@maryland.gov>

LT.

I had been asked by you to send this email in regards to some issues that have arisen out of the Attorney General Office. Regarding parking and other moving violations that have been issued to the Attorney General assigned vehicle, a 2012 Chevrolet Tahoe. Soon after recieving the new Tahoe the Attorney General was operating the Tahoe in DC with the new paper regstration attached to the vehicle. While he the Attorney General was operating the vehicle in DC he recieved a citation in the mail for a speed camera violation. The citation was malled to his Office in Baltimore. The Office Secretary forwarded the citation to my attention. I conducted a check of the schedule and spoke with was not operating the vehicle at the time the citation was issued. The AG was notified I told him about the ticket and he said wasni going to pay it. He said he thought since it was on the temporary registration that it would be okay. I then notified both his Secretary Terry Denny and his Office Manager Beverly Pivec and told the m about this information. They advised me that the office is not allowed to pay these type of fines. So the information was returned to the a Office at which point it is now there responsibility to take care of it. I instructed the office that when we r operting the vehicle and a violation occurs then we r obligated to take care of that which we do, and have done.

In August of 2013. Precieved a parking citation while parked at the Attorney Generals office. Even thou we had been parking there for the last 5 years, the parking ticket paid the parking ticket. When a ware of any parking violations that have occurred other than the one that a mountain parking violations that have occurred other than the one that a secieved and paid. This email is to make a aware of these above said issues. Thank u for your time and attention to this matter.

MSP Executive Protection